

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Status

Claims 8-12 and 15-20 are pending and are rejected. Claims 8-12, 15-17 and 20 are herein amended, with claims 8, 15-17 and 20 being independent in form. New claims 21 and 22 are added. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Objections to Specification

The title has been deemed not descriptive and the abstract has been objected to for not containing proper language and format. Applicants have herein amended both the title and abstract accordingly.

Rejections In View of Prior Art

Claims 8-12 and 15-16 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by USP 5,812,278 to Toyoda et al. ("Toyoda '278") and claims 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,881,233 also to Toyoda et al. ("Toyoda '233"), in view of Toyoda '278.

Applicants have amended the independent claims herein to clarify the feature of the invention of transmitting a URL representing the existence of additional information to the transmission destination, and transmitting the Web page including the additional information upon receiving the reply to the transmitted URL.

Amended independent apparatus claim 8 (and similarly corresponding method claim 15 and computer medium claim 16) thus clearly recite that the first transmission unit is arranged to transmit a URL representing the existence of additional information to a transmission destination, a generating unit to generate a Web page including the additional information to be

accessed based on the transmitted URL, and the second transmission unit transmits the Web page including such additional information based on the reply received.

Amended independent claims 17 (and similarly corresponding computer medium claim 20) recites an electronic mail recognized by the recognition step and an instructing a URL in the recognized electronic mail to transmit a Web page including image data in a method other than the electronic mail so as to process the image which is displayed in a display step.

Thus, since it is possible under the claimed invention to transmit the additional information according to the request based on the URL from the transmission destination, it is possible to provide the additional information at the timing desired by the transmission destination, and it is also possible to easily display on the transmission destination side the proposed additional information by using the general- purpose Web browser.

On the other hand, Toyoda '278 and Toyoda '233 only disclose that communication is performed between a facsimile apparatus and an E-mail apparatus by performing mutual conversion between facsimile and e-mail. Neither Toyoda reference discloses or suggests at least the above described features of the claimed invention that a URL representing the existence of additional information is transmitted, and the additional information is transmitted based on the reply to the transmitted URL.

Accordingly, it is believed that the invention as recited in the amended independent claims is not taught nor suggested by either Toyoda reference, taken alone or in combination, and is thus believed clearly distinguishable from, and neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of, the cited Toyoda references.

Claims 21-22:

New claims 21 and 22 which depend from independent claim 8 are believed allowable for at least similar reasons as discussed for claim 8.

Dependent Claims

Applicants have not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants believe that, as the independent claims from which they depend are allowable for at least those reasons discussed *supra*, the dependent claims are allowable for at least similar reasons. Applicants however, reserve the right to address such rejections should such be necessary.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8-12 and 15-22 as presented herein are allowable over the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, and that the respective rejections and objections be withdrawn as the application is hereby placed in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.


Applicant believes no fees are required for this Amendment/Request for Reconsideration and that no extension of time is required for this filing. However, should an extension of time be necessary to render this filing timely, such is hereby petitioned, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4423US1.

In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated: October 15, 2003

By:

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.


Stephen J. Manetta
Registration No. 40,426

Correspondence Address:

Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P.
345 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10154
(212) 758-4800 (Telephone)/(212) 751-6849 (Fax)